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on April 29, 2004

Carolyn Beason-Wright  
Carolyn Beason-Wright

**PATENT**  
**CASE NO.: 8627/096 (PA-5245-RFB)**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	)	
	)	
Fred T. Parker	)	Examiner: Ramana, Anuradha
	)	
Serial No.: 09/815,567	)	Group Art Unit: 3751
	)	
Filed: March 23, 2001	)	
	)	
For: INTRODUCER SHEATH	)	

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

MAIL STOP RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RECEIVED**  
**MAY 06 2004**  
**TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700**

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.